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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Noboru SAITO et al.) Group Art Unit: 3762
Application No.: 09/994,696) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: November 28, 2001)
For: PLATELET COLLECTING APPARATUS)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying form PTO-1449 for the above-identified patent application.

- ☒ [X] No additional fee for submission of an IDS is required.
- ☐ [] The fee of \$180.00 (126) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is also enclosed.
- ☐ [] A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is also enclosed.
- ☐ [] A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and the fee of \$180.00 (126) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) are also enclosed.
- ☐ [] Charge \$_____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- ☐ [] A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed for the fee due.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

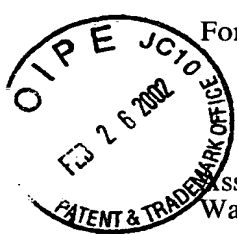
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Date: February 26, 2002

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the following information is brought to the
Examiner's attention.

U.S. Patent No. 5,494,592.

U.S. Patent No. 5,607,579.

International Publication No. WO 94/25086. A discussion of relevance of this
document is set forth on page one of the present application.

European Patent Application No. 0 992 256. A discussion of relevance of this
document is set forth on page two of the present application.

Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-84066. A discussion of relevance of this
document is set forth on page three of the present application. An English-language
abstract of this document is also attached for the Examiner's convenience.



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To assist the Examiner in entering the foregoing information into the record, the above-noted documents are cited on the attached form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents are enclosed.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the foregoing information and to acknowledge such consideration by initialling, signing and returning the enclosed additional copy of form PTO-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER, & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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